



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT
& HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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**ASIA-PACIFIC DISEASE OUTBREAK
/SURVEILLANCE REPORT**

Week of Nov 14, 2005

BANGLADESH

75 Die from Malaria in Southeastern Bangladesh

Seventy-five people have died from malaria in southeastern Bangladesh this year [2005]. Over 20,000 have been affected by the disease. Non-governmental organizations believe that the actual death toll may be at least double the reported figure.

Source:

· News From Bangladesh, Nov 14, 2005, <http://bangladesh-web.com/news/view.php?hidDate=2005-11-14&hidType=LOC&hidRecord=0000000000000000071284>

CHINA

School Children Suffer Food Poisoning in China

Twenty-one school children suffered food poisoning in Shaanxi Province, China (northwestern region) after eating breakfast at their school cafeteria on 14 November [2005]. All of the victims are currently in stable condition after being treated. The six-graders became ill after eating steamed buns and drinking soybean milk. Doctors are awaiting lab results to determine the source of the food poisoning. Most of the victims experienced vomiting and some of them fainted.

Source:

· Bahrain News Agency, Nov 15, 2005, <http://english.bna.bh/?ID=37690>
· Mid Day, Nov 15, 2005, <http://web.mid-day.com/news/world/2005/november/123365.htm>
· CRI Online, Nov 15, 2005, <http://en.chinabroadcast.cn/2238/2005-11-15/51@282053.htm>

China Announces First Human Avian Influenza Infections

China's Ministry of Health has confirmed its first two cases of human avian influenza. One of the victims, from the eastern province of Anhui, died on 10 November [2005] after being hospitalized with pneumonia. The other victim, from central province of

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Hunan, has recovered from respiratory symptoms. Two additional unconfirmed cases of avian influenza have also been recorded and are currently being investigated. The government is working to vaccinate poultry to help stop the spread of the virus.

Source:

- CNN.com, Nov 16, 2005, <http://www.cnn.com/2005/HEALTH/conditions/11/16/bird.flu.china.ap/index.html>
- ProMED-mail, Nov 16, 2005, http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,31106
- ABC News, Nov 16, 2005, <http://www.abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=1318107>
- New York Times, Nov 16, 2005, <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/16/international/asia/16cnd-flu.html?hp&ex=1132203600&en=73c27d4b8e63700c&ei=5094&partner=homepage>
- International Herald Tribune, Nov 16, 2005, <http://www.iht.com/articles/2005/11/16/news/flu.php>
- Yahoo News! Singapore, Nov 17, 2005, <http://sg.news.yahoo.com/051117/1/3wkon.html>
- World Health Organization, Nov 17, 2005, http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005_11_17/en/index.html

INDIA

Over 100 Die from Undiagnosed Illness in India

An undiagnosed disease has killed 103 children in Uttar Pradesh, India in the past two months. Health Department officials believe that the disease is a mutation of the encephalitis virus. Laboratory tests are currently being conducted to investigate the disease. The majority of the victims are below the age of five and died between eight and 24 hours. The mortality rate is around 70%.

Source:

- Times of India, Nov 10, 2005, <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1290358.cms>
- Times of India, Nov 12, 2005, <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1292942.cms>
- Khaleej Times, Nov 13, 2005, http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/November/subcontinent_November446.xml§ion=subcontinent&col
- ProMED-mail, Nov 13, 2005, http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,31076

Encephalitis Toll in India Continues to Rise

The current outbreak of encephalitis in Uttar Pradesh, India is considered to be the worst epidemic in three decades. Over 4,500 people are infected with the disease, which has killed over a thousand people this year [2005]. Children have been the most susceptible to the virus. The outbreak has reached epidemic proportions this year [2005] due to the early arrival of the monsoon season and the lack of immunization efforts. Mosquito nets are being dispersed across the state to help stop the spread of the disease.

Source:

- WebIndia123.com, Nov 14, 2005, http://news.webindia123.com/news/showdetails.asp?id=162599&n_date=20051114&cat=India
- WebIndia123.com, Nov 16, 2005, <http://news.webindia123.com/news/showdetails.asp?id=164108&cat=Health>
- OutlookIndia.com, Nov 16, 2005, http://www.outlookindia.com/pti_news.asp?id=335416

Dengue Cases Continue to Rise in India's Capital

The number of recorded dengue fever cases in India has reached 881. Nine people have died from the disease this year [2005]. Over half of the cases have been reported

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from Delhi.

Source:

- Times of India, Nov 11, 2005, <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1291562.cms>
- New Kerala, Nov 14, 2005, <http://www.newkerala.com/news.php?action=fullnews&id=52466>
- Times of India, Nov 16, 2005, <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/1296685.cms>

Over 10,000 infected with AIDS in Northern India

Over 10,000 people in the northern state of Jammu and Kashmir, India have been infected with the AIDS virus. The actual number of cases may be higher as the current figure does not include rural regions. An official explanation for the high number of cases has not been confirmed, but a national survey revealed that many male truck drivers are infected, who in turn infect their spouses.

Source:

- Kashmir Times Online, Nov 16, 2005, <http://kasmirtimes.com/archive/0511/051116/index.htm>

INDONESIA

Seven Deaths from Avian Influenza in Indonesia

The Ministry of Health in Indonesia has confirmed seven deaths from avian influenza. Four people are currently being treated for the disease. The Ministry is conducting tests on two of the deaths that occurred over the weekend [12-13 November 2005]. The two victims are said to have come into contact with infected birds.

Source:

- Reuters AlertNet, Nov 14, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/JAK168247.htm>
- ProMED-mail, Nov 15, 2005, http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,31091
- World Health Organization, Nov 17, 2005, http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005_11_17/en/index.html
- The Jakarta Post, Nov 18, 2005, <http://www.thejakartapost.com/detaillatestnews.asp?fileid=20051117152937&iREC=6>

Anthrax Outbreak in Southwestern Indonesia

Health officials in Makassar, Indonesia, located on the southwestern coast, have reported an anthrax outbreak. At least five people have been infected, all slaughterhouse workers. All of the victims are suffering from skin infections, while one person has a fever and swollen lymph glands. Dozens of cows have recently died from anthrax in the region. The last outbreak of anthrax in the region was in the 1980s.

Source:

- The Jakarta Post, Nov 17, 2005, <http://www.thejakartapost.com/detailnational.asp?fileid=20051117.D07&iREC=6>

SINGAPORE

Dengue Remains a Threat in Singapore

A total of 13,425 cases of dengue fever have been reported this year [2005] in Singapore. The current figure is up 42% compared to the 9,459 reported cases last year [2004]. There was a major rise in cases during the month of September [2005]. Nineteen people have died from dengue this year [2005].

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Source:

· Channel NewsAsia, Nov 14, 2005, <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/178578/1/.html>
· People's Daily Online, Nov 15, 2005, http://english.people.com.cn/200511/15/eng20051115_221208.html

THAILAND**Thailand Confirms Fourth Avian Influenza Case**

The Ministry of Public Health has confirmed Thailand's fourth case of avian influenza this year [2005]. The newest case involves an 18-month old boy, who tested positive for H5N1 but has now recovered. Officials report that the boy may have contracted the disease from chicken droppings around his home near Bangkok. Thailand has recorded 21 avian influenza cases, including 13 deaths since January 2004. Since October 2005, 10 out of Thailand's 76 provinces have reported avian influenza in poultry.

Source:

· World Health Organization, Nov 14, 2005, http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005_11_14/en/index.html
· ProMED-mail, Nov 14, 2005, http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,31091
· Reuters AlertNet, Nov 14, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/BKK164791.htm>

VIETNAM**Vietnam Reports Two Cases of Suspected Avian Influenza**

Two more people in Vietnam may be infected with avian influenza. Ten out of Vietnam's 64 provinces have reported the presence of H5N1 virus in poultry since October 2005. Since the first presence of avian influenza in 2003, Vietnam has reported 42 deaths.

Source:

· Reuters AlertNet, Nov 14, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/HAN163713.htm>
· ProMED-mail, Nov 15, 2005, http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,31091

Other World News**PAKISTAN****Pakistan Begins Immunization Efforts in Quake-Affected Regions**

Immunization efforts have begun in the quake-affected regions of Pakistan with plans to vaccinate 800,000 children before the onset of winter. Doctors hope to prevent measles, tetanus, whooping cough, diphtheria and polio. Children are especially susceptible to diseases as they are not getting enough food to eat, since the areas were cut off by landslides. Healthcare workers will walk from village to village and vaccinate all the children they encounter. Cases of diarrhea, measles, diphtheria and tetanus

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have already been reported.

Source:

· Khaleej Times, Nov 14, 2005,

http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/November/subcontinent_November470.xml§ion=subcontinent&col

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